

9-12 District Test Coordinator Bulletin July 2017

Key Dates

Spring 2017 Ohio's State Tests – High School

Early Jul.	Breach downloadable data files posted in Online Reporting System (ORS)
Jul. 26	Printed score reports due in district
Aug.11	Deadline to submit rescore and verification in TIDE

Summer 2017 Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT)

Jul. 24	Downloadable data files posted in Ohio Online Assessment Reporting System (OOARS)
Jul. 24-Sep. 20	Rescore and verification window open in TIDE for OGT
Aug. 21	Printed score reports due in district
Aug. 21	Interactive data files posted in OOARS

Summer 2017 Ohio's State Tests (OST) – High School

Jul. 1-26	Order braille test booklets
Jul. 17-28	Online OST summer 2017 test administration
Jul. 28	Pre-ID registration window closes
Sep. 11	Downloadable data files posted in ORS
Sep. 11	Interactive data files posted in ORS
Sep. 11-Oct.26	Rescore and verification window will be open in TIDE
Oct. 2	Printed score reports due in district

Fall 2017 Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT)

Aug. 21-25	On-time order window open in TIDE for OGT
Aug. 21-25	Pre-ID window open in TIDE for OGT
Oct. 6	On-time testing materials and Pre-ID labels due in district
Oct. 6-Nov.10	Pre-processing record change window in TIDE for OGT
Oct. 23-Nov. 5	OGT fall 2017 test administration
Oct. 23-Nov. 10	Invalidation window open in TIDE for OGT
Dec. 11	Downloadable data files posted in OOARS
Jan. 4	Printed score reports due in district
Jan. 8	Interactive data files posted in OOARS

Fall 2017 Ohio's State Tests (OST) – High School

Sept. 12-Jan.12	Pre-ID window to register all students
Sept. 12-18	On-time orders window open in TIDE
Sept. 18	Deadline to submit Pre-ID data to receive pre-printed Pre-ID labels for paper testers
Nov. 27	On-time paper test materials and pre-printed Pre-ID labels due in district
Nov. 27-Jan. 12	Additional order window
Dec. 4-Jan. 12	Online and paper high school OST fall 2017 administration
Jan. 12	Last day to pre-identify students participating online or on paper

Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT)

Summer 2017

Returning Materials

All secure testing materials should have been returned to DRC. If you have any materials that need to be returned, districts will need to arrange for a UPS pick up. Refer to the section “Returning Scorable Answer Documents” on pages 18 and 19 of the [District Test Coordinator Manual](#).

Results

Downloadable data files for the summer 2017 OGT will be posted in the [Ohio Online Assessment Reporting System](#) on **July 24** for districts that return scorable documents by **June 28** and per the instructions in the manuals. Printed score reports and interactive data will be available Aug. 21.

Rescores and Verifications

Rescores and verifications for the summer 2017 OGT will be collected in [TIDE for OGT](#) **July 24** through **Sept. 20**. Requests are subject to Department approval. There is a \$25 charge for each verification request. There is a \$25 charge for processing each rescore request unless the rescore results in a score change.

Fall 2017

On-time Orders

District test coordinators can confirm participation and order test materials and special versions (large-print and braille test booklets, language translation scripts, English audio CDs and foreign language CDs) in [TIDE for OGT](#) **Aug. 21-25**.

Pre-ID

Districts whose students are taking the fall 2017 OGT and who wish to receive Pre-ID labels must submit their Pre-ID data **August 21-25** in [TIDE for OGT](#). Districts or their information technology centers must submit Pre-ID files for OGT using Ohio’s [old layout](#). The last OGT Pre-ID file submitted for the district between Aug. 21-25 is the file from which OGT Pre-ID labels will be produced. If another Pre-ID file is uploaded into [TIDE for OGT](#), it will overwrite all previous files.

All Tests – Ohio’s State Tests (OST), OELPA and AASCD

Downloadable Data File Layout 2016-2017

A new statewide layout for downloadable data files for the 2016-2017 school year is now available on the [Reporting Resources](#) page of the portal. All changes to the layout from the prior year are indicated in **red** font. Please distribute this layout to all EMIS coordinators, data managers and information technology centers.

This layout will support the reporting of the following administrations:

- OELPA spring 2016 and spring 2017;
- Ohio's State Tests fall 2016, spring 2017 and summer 2017;
- Alternate Assessment (AASCD) spring 2017.

IMPORTANT: The layout now includes fields for raw score values for Ohio's State Tests. These values will be reported starting with the fall 2016 administration; past administrations will not include raw score values.

Directions for accessing district data files can be found in the Online Reporting System User Guide and the Downloading Data Files guidance document, both available on the [Reporting Resources](#) page of the portal.

Secure Browsers for 2017-2018

Beginning in August 2017, version 10 of the secure browser for desktop and laptop devices is available to download from the [Ohio's State Tests](#) portal. This secure browser is the only version that can be used for the 2017-2018 school year. Older versions of the secure browser installed on desktop and laptop devices cannot be used for secure student testing in 2017-2018. Along with the release of the secure browser, updated technical documentation is available on the [Technology Coordinators](#) page.

The AIR Secure Test App for mobile devices – Chromebooks, iPads and Androids – is new for 2017-2018. As with the desktop secure browser only the 2017-2018 version can be used for secure student testing. Older versions of the secure test app cannot be used.

District should watch for future communication on the release of the Secure Browser, secure test app and technical documentation.

Ohio's State Tests – English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies

Spring 2017

Online Reporting System Student Population Selections

A new feature that provides additional flexibility for viewing individual student and educator reports is available in the Score Reports section of the [Online Reporting System](#). To access this feature, log into the Online Reporting System, select Score Reports and then select one of three radio buttons below the Test and Administration dropdowns. These buttons allow district and school personnel to view reports for student populations for any one of the three criteria based on enrollment. The enrollment used by this feature is based on student information (pre-ID upload) in TIDE.

- **Scores for students who were mine at the end of the selected administration:**
Results for students who were enrolled in your school or district at the end of an administration, regardless of where that student tested or is currently enrolled. This allows districts to see results for students who transferred to their districts after testing.
- **Scores for my current students:**
Results for students who are currently enrolled in your school or district, who tested in any school or district in Ohio for the selected administration. This is useful for joint vocational school districts and career-technology centers that need to view scores for incoming students.
- **Scores for students who were mine when they tested during the selected administration:**

Results for students who tested in your school or district for the administration, regardless of where that student is currently enrolled. This is the default option and is traditionally how reports are presented in Ohio.

Discrepancy Resolution Window

Districts will have an opportunity to resolve discrepant records in TIDE. District test coordinators must sign in to the “Ohio State Tests 2016-2017” administration of TIDE and check the Discrepancy Resolution Task to resolve any records that require resolution. Review the guidance document for instructions. Districts must resolve all discrepant records through the summer. *Unresolved records will not be reported.*

Rescores and Verifications Window

Districts will have an opportunity to submit rescore and verification requests until **Aug. 11**. Review the guidance document for instructions.

District test coordinators can submit **rescore** requests in TIDE if they believe the student’s score does not reflect expected student achievement. There is a \$25 charge for processing rescore requests unless the rescore results in a score change. Before submitting a rescore request, district test coordinators are encouraged to check whether the student’s test needs to be resolved in the Discrepancy Resolution in TIDE. Rescore requests can only be processed for tests that contained hand-scored items. Refer to the guidance document for a list of eligible tests. District test coordinators can submit **verification** requests if (1) the district believes the student tested and did not receive a score, or (2) the district believes a score was incorrectly assigned to a student. Verification requests only apply to students who took paper tests. Review the guidance document for instructions for submitting verification requests in TIDE.

Summer 2017

High School OST Administration

Test Administration

Summer testing is optional. Students, schools and districts may elect to participate or not participate. The summer high school OST administration is an online administration and all subjects are available.

Pre-ID

Districts must ensure all participating students are pre-identified in TIDE in advance of the test window and have the appropriate subject mode field set to “O” for online. Refer to the [Guidance Document for 2016-2017 Ohio Pre-ID Files](#) for more information.

Secure Browsers

The secure browsers used for spring 2017 will be used for summer 2017 testing. If the devices that will be used for summer 2017 testing already have the secure browser installed, no updates are needed. If your district has devices that will be used for summer testing that do not have the secure browser installed, please refer to the [Secure Browsers](#) page on the [portal](#) and the documentation there to prepare the devices and install the secure browser.

Manuals

Digital copies of the summer Test Administrator’s Manual will be available on the portal.

Testing Times

Specific English language arts, mathematics, science and social studies test times are located at this [link](#). Test administrators are responsible for ensuring that students receive the appropriate amount of time for each part of the test.

Summer High School OST Braille Administration

Braille Administration

Paper braille test booklets for high school will be available upon request. Requests for paper braille test booklets may be placed to the Ohio Help Desk (877.231.7809) during the published window. There are no paper-based large print test booklets for high school.

Pre-ID

Districts testing students using the braille high school tests must ensure that braille testers are pre-identified in TIDE in advance of the test window and have the appropriate test mode field(s) set to "P" for paper.

Data Entry Interface

Test administrators will record and submit student responses for high school braille tests into the Data Entry Interface (DEI). Test administrators may record student responses on provided optional recording worksheets. Test administrators are responsible for transferring and submitting student responses into the Data Entry Interface by the published deadline. Recording worksheets will not be scanned and scored. Failure to submit student responses into the Data Entry Interface will result in no scores being reported.

Test administrators entering scores for braille testers need access to a device with a supported internet browser installed so that the test administrator may log into the Data Entry Interface. The Data Entry Interface does not require the installation of the secure browser or AIRSecureTest App. See the [Online System Requirements](#) document on the portal for a list of supported web browsers.

User Accounts

Test coordinators are responsible for ensuring that all personnel who need access to the Data Entry Interface (DEI) have user accounts and will use the Manage Users task in TIDE for online administrations to do so. Every person who will administer a high school braille test must have a Test Administrator (TA) or Teacher role (TE) to access the Data Entry Interface. Instructions for troubleshooting login issues can be found in the [TIDE FAQ](#) document.

Practice Tests for 2017-2018

Based on feedback from the field, the practice test materials, both online and paper, have undergone a refresh for the 2017-2018 school year.

Districts will see changes to the [Practice Test Site](#) at the end of July. Updates to the site include:

- Updated practice tests for all grades and subjects, except physical science. These practice tests feature item level scoring; no overall test score will be provided.
- Updated spring 2015 and spring 2016 science and social studies item release tests. The 2015 tests represent the entire test content given in spring 2015.
- Spring 2017 item release tests for all grades and subjects, except physical science.
- New student SSID login option. This optional login choice allows students to login with their first names and SSIDs as they do for operational tests. Guest login remains the default option and allows anyone (e.g., parents) to experience online testing.
- Updated *Practice Site Guidance Document* which covers all updates in detail and provides step-by-step directions for using the Practice Test Site.

Districts will see new and updated paper practice test materials available on the [Student Practice Resources](#) page of the portal at the end of July. This will include:

- English language arts and mathematics practice test materials;
- Revised science and social studies practice test materials.

Special version practice materials will be available later this fall. At the end of September, districts may access large print practice tests for all grades and subjects on the [Student Practice Resources](#) page of the portal. Districts may request braille practice test materials for all grades and subjects starting the end of November. Watch for future communication on how to request braille practice test materials.

Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities

[Spring 2017 AASCD Results](#)

District test coordinators can access AASCD downloadable data files in the [Online Reporting System](#) for the spring 2017 AASCD administration. The data file includes results for all students whose scores were submitted by the end of the test window (April 14). Printed family score reports and labels arrived in districts in early June. An [Interpretive Guide](#) has been posted on the [Ohio Alternate Assessment Portal](#) and it provides guidance for families regarding the AASCD and goes through features of the score reports and what they mean.

[Update to Ohio's Learning Standards – Extended](#)

This summer, educators statewide will assist the Ohio Department of Education in updating Ohio's Learning Standards-Extended in English language arts and mathematics. Beginning in 2018, the Department will start the revision of Ohio's Learning Standards-Extended in science and social studies. Educators who use the extended standards and instruct students who take alternate assessments, as well as those who have expertise in these content areas, may wish to apply to participate in the working groups that will draft revisions.

During the revision process, the Department will gather feedback that reflects the experience that Ohio educators and parents gained with the extended standards during the past five years since they were first adopted.

Through this periodic standards review, our state aims to ensure that students with significant cognitive disabilities have multiple ways to learn and demonstrate knowledge. At the same time, we will work together so that the extended standards will continue reflecting the rigor and high expectations of Ohio's Learning Standards.

[Students with Disabilities and the ACT/SAT](#)

The Ohio Department of Education has announced that students with disabilities who take the Alternate Assessment for Students with Significant Cognitive Disabilities (AASCD) instead of the general Ohio's State Tests are exempt from the requirement that all 11th grade students participate in the ACT/SAT. This does not, however, prohibit a student with a significant cognitive disability from taking the ACT or SAT if the student and/or parent requests to participate in the test.

The Ohio General Assembly passed Senate Bill 3 on Dec. 8, 2016, which provides for additional exemptions and requires the Department to provide guidance on test participation for certain student populations (ORC [3301.0712](#)).

Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment (OELPA)

[OELPA Results](#)

Reclassification Date

The OELPA results were posted in the [Online Reporting System](#) on May 15. The OELPA scores need to be reported separately from the reclassification but both need to be reported in EMIS. The collection for *scores* will close on July 14, 2017. The *reclassification* collection will close on July 28, 2017. If there are questions, please discuss them with your EMIS coordinator.

There have been questions on the date to be listed in EMIS when a student is reclassified as no longer an English learner. There may be some confusion on a specific date due to last year's very unusual timing to report OELPA 2016 results. The first year of OELPA required standards to be set, which delayed the results. A specific date was given, Nov. 9-11, to make sure the results were reported before the 2017 reporting window opened. Giving a specific date for reclassification was very unusual and only done for the 2016 OELPA.

OELPA Test Window *2018*

The 2018 OELPA test window is **Feb. 5 – March 30**. Please plan your calendar for next year to allow testing within the test window. Waiting until the last week of the test window to administer the OELPA will jeopardize a student's opportunity to test when unexpected incidents occur. There are no extensions to the OELPA test window.

Screener – Operational

The state screener will be available in school year 2018-19. Training will be provided through Skype, WebEx and the manuals. Each district will follow the same procedure as before for its screener choice in school year 2017-2018.

Exit Criteria

Please note, the exit criteria for the OELPA is not connected to the exit criteria for the OTELA. The OTELA is *no longer being administered*. The OTELA scores are **not** to be used with OELPA.

Under OELPA, the English learner will exit the program when an overall level of *Proficient* has been attained. The overall Proficient means 4's and 5's on the four domains/tests (*reading, speaking, writing and listening*). For example, the levels could be 4455 or 4555 or 4444 or 5555 and so on. There are no "holding" levels or scores from one year to the next until a goal has been achieved. Each English learner's status will be reviewed each year based on the OELPA results. An English learner this year and succeeding years will exit based only on the OELPA results.

The three overall performance levels are: **Proficient, Emerging and Progressing**. The performance levels are determined as follows:

- Proficient means a student scored any combination of level 4's and 5's on the four tests – Exit;
- Progressing means a student scored a combination of levels on the four tests that did not allow the student to be considered Proficient or Emerging – No exit; and
- Emerging means a student scored any combination of level 1's and 2's on the four tests – No exit.

The exit criteria document has been distributed to district test coordinators and English as a Second Language coordinators and posted on the Department website at this [link](#).